UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

E

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/CPH/44
19 June 1978

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Working Group on Recommendations for the 1980 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa

Addis Ababa, 10 - 14 July 1978

PROGRESS REPORT ON AFRICAN CENSUSES

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PROGRESS REPORT ON AFRICAN CENSUSES

INTRODUCTION

1. This report relates to all censuses which have been carried out in Africa as part of the 1970 and 1980 rounds. Many of the censuses carried out in the 1970 round were conducted as part of the African Census Programme (ACP) which has now been replaced by the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS). ACP was set up in response to the request of a number of African countries who could not, for technical and financial reasons, participate in the 1970 round of censuses. Most of these countries had never taken a census before and needed help to be able to conduct their first ever census. With the support of various legislative bodies of the United Nations, the African Census Programme, financed by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), was launched in 1971 and covered 22 countries as shown in Annexes I and II.

2. It may be recalled that for the 1970 round of censuses the United Nations had convened in 1967 a Working Group to revise the international recommendations made for the 1960 round of censuses. The 1970 recommendations were based primarily on the experiences of countries which had taken part in the 1960 round.

3. The African variant of these recommendations were prepared by a Working Group which was convened by ECA in 1968 and which examined the various international recommendations in the light of African experiences. The recommendations of the African Working Group were taken into account in the consideration of the content of questionnaires of the censuses held under the auspices of the ACP.

4. It should be emphasized that by the early 1970's a great interest had developed in the collection of demographic data which could provide invaluable inputs to the national development plans of a number of countries which had become independent in the 1960's.

5. This report describes the progress of the ACP within the overall context of census operations in the region. Some references are also made to censuses carried out in the region which did not form part of the ACP. A list of all countries which had taken a census since 1966 is shown in Annex I. Some information on United Nations inputs to-date will be given as well as indications of follow-up activities envisaged or desirable.

PROGRESS OF THE AFRICAN CENSUS PROGRAMME

6. Since the beginning of 1966 censuses have been carried out in almost every African country with the exception of Benin, Burundi, Chad, Fthiopia, and Zaire. The first four of these countries were included in the African Census Programme. Benin and Burundi plan to carry out their censuses before the end of 1978. However, no definite census dates have been established for Chad and Ethiopia. With respect to Zaire, a consultancy mission was fielded in June-September 1977 to work out a feasibility study for a census. Tentative arrangements are being made to start preparatory cartographic work in connection with this census.

7. It should also be noted that the 1980 round is already in progress and Algeria (February 1977), Egypt (November 1976) Lesotho (April 1976), Swaziland (August 1976), Malawi (Sept. 1977) and Tunisia (May 1975) have already conducted their censuses. There are plans for Cape Verde (1978), Ghana (1980) Guinea (1978), Guinea Bissau (1978), Kenya (1979), Rwanda (1978), Sao Tome and Principe (1978), Uganda (1979) and Zambia (1980), to conduct their censuses in the years shown in parentheses against them.

8. A number of problems were encountered in the implementation of country programmes under the ACP; the details of some of these problems are covered in document E/CN.14/CAS.10/15 (Study on Methods and Problems of African Population Censuses and Surveys).

9. As reported to the ninth session of the Conference of African Statisticians in document E/CN.14/CAS.9/11, the delays in implementing the original programme of the ACP were due to the defects in original project requests, the unsatisfactory conditions under which country experts and regional advisers were operating and a shortfall in the development of national census organizatinns. An effort has been made in the last two years to correct the first three elements. The project requests have now been formulated in more realistic terms by governments with the assistance of ECA regional advisers. An attempt has also been made to cut down the time lag between submission of the request by Governments for UN country expert assistance and the date of arrival of the expert in the country. While project documents were under preparation, a short list of suitable experts was at the same time being compiled and the interest and availability of the experts for the post being ascertained. This enabled the UN soon after the approval of the project to start recruitment procedures. It must be pointed out, however, that this did not work out satisfactorily in all cases since in certain instances the expert so identified and accepted by the country turned down the offer at the last minute and the UN had to start the whole recruitment process all over again.

10. With respect to the work of regional advisers attached to ECA, a great deal of monitoring of projects was added to the main function of providing technical advice to countries. Annex X gives details of missions carried out by regional advisory staff since 1 January 1973. Annex IX also gives the full list of census advisers used in the ACP (now superseded by RASDS) since 1971. In addition to responding to Government requests for specific advisory missions, the ACP attempted to develop a strategy aimed at monitoring the progress of work in all the countries participating in the programme and despatching missions to those areas where problems were found to exist. Such missions were of course first cleared with the appropriate Governments. It was thus possible to identify problems and take appropriate remedial action before they reached serious proportions. In those countries where no progress has been made towards the realization of the census the problems have been beyond the competence of either the United Nations or the national statistical offices. Annex V shows the status of each of the 22 projects under the original census programme. For those countries which have completed their field enumeration, data processing problems have been the main cause of delay in publishing final tables.

11. The African Census Programme in addition to providing advice to countries has also helped in collecting and recording census experiences in many countries. Some of these experiences have been used as basis for methodological studies such as the Post-enumeration Survey for Coverage Evaluation of African Population Censuses E/CN.14/CAS.9/77) and Special Techniques for Enumerating Nomads in African Censuses and Surveys (E/CN.14/CAS.10/16).

UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE

12. A few brief comments will be made on the nature of UN assistance to the ACP. These consist of the provision of:

(a) Country experts in the fields of census organization, cartography, data processing, demographic data analysis, sampling; Annexes III, IV, VII and VIII give some information on these census experts.

(b) Regional or inter-regional advisers in the fields of census organization, cartography, data processing/computer methods, sampling and demographic data analysis.

(c) Financial assistance for equipment (both expendable and non-expendable), including vehicles and hire or purchase of data processing equipment.

Also contributions towards meeting local costs (salaries and/or incentive payments of administrative staff and field personnel), maintenance and repairs of vehicles, etc.

(d) Financial support for a communications component of the census project.

13. The level of UNFPA financial support has varied widely from country to country according to requirements. Preliminary figures show that UNFPA contribution to the total census budget has ranged from 11 to 75 per cent. It should be mentioned, however, that uniform standards have not been used in the preparation of the total budget and therefore inter-country comparisons are likely to be misleading.

14. There has been some indication from UNFPA that the level of support received for the 1970 round may not be available for the 1980 round. Thus, African countries participating in that round may have to rely more on their own resources and less on UNFPA contributions, especially in the area of subventions to meet local costs.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

15. A number of follow-up activities have been suggested in connection with the census. The most important of these activities is the African Household Survey Capability Programme. It was also hoped that the census programme would be the starting point for renewed activity in obtaining more reliable and up-to-date information on rates relating to the three components of population change: fertility, mortality and migration. This could be done either by improving civil registration systems or by conducting single-round demographic surveys as part of an integrated household survey programme, multi-round demographic surveys or dual record systems. It was expected that African countries would devote time and resources to these questions once the censuses have been conducted.

16. It is also expected that, in those countries which have not established a regular series of censuses, the ACP will help in establishing this series and that once every 5 or 10 years a population census will be conducted. In the African context it seems more reasonable to think of a census once in 10 rather than 5 years.

Annex I

Latest Population Censuses in ECA Member States June 1978

Country	Year	Pop (mn)	Country	Year	Pop (mn)
NORTH AFRICA			CENTRAL AFRICA		
Algeria	77	N.A.	Angola	70	5.67
Egypt	76	38.23	*Cameroon	76	7.08
*Libya	73	2.26	*Central Afr. Emp.	75	1.79
Morocco	71	15.38	*Congo	74	1.30
*Sudan	73	14.17	Equatorial Guinea	71	N.A.
Tunisia	75	5.59	Gabon	70	0.50
			Sao Tome & Principe	70	0.07
WEST AFRICA					
Cape Verde	70	0.27	EAST AFRICA		
*Gambia	73	0.49	Botswana	71	0.58
Ghana	70	8.56	Comoros	66	0.24
Guinea	72	...	Kenya	69	10.94
Guinea Bissau	70	0.49**	Lesotho	76	N.A.
*Ivory Coast	75	6.71	*Madagascar	75	6.20
*Liberia	74	1.50	Malawi	77	5.57
*Mali	76	6.50	*Mauritius	72	0.85
*Mauritania	76	1.48	Mozambique	70	8.17
*Niger	77	4.59	Seychelles	71	0.53
*Nigeria	73	N.A.	*Somalia	75	3.04
*Senegal	76	5.08	Swaziland	76	0.50
*Sierra Leone	74	2.73	Tanzania	67	12.31
Togo	70	1.95	Uganda	69	9.55
*Upper Volta	75	6.14	Zambia	69	4.14

* Original members of group of 22 countries participating in the African Census Programme.

** Population of part of the country which was under Portuguese control.

Annex II

Countries which have yet to Undertake a National Census

Country	Year	Pop (mn)
WEST AFRICA		
*Benin	78	3.07
CENTRAL AFRICA		
*Burundi	78	3.76
*Chad	?	4.02
Rwanda	78	4.20
Zaire	78	24.50
EAST AFRICA		
*Ethiopia	?	27.97

* Original members of group of 22 countries which participated in the African Census Programme (now defunct).

Annex III

The timing of assistance activities and project implementation in 18 african countries which have taken population censuses in the 1970 round with UN assistance.

Sub-region and country	Submission of project request		UNFPA approval		Arrival of general census expert initially	Census date	
	Original	Revised	Initial	Subsequent		Original	Revised
NORTH AFRICA							
Libya	No project assistance request made to UN by Government				Aug. 72	1974	July 73
Sudan	Feb 72	June 72-Jan.74 (addl.request)	Oct.72	-	Feb. 73	Apr/May 72	Apr. 73
WEST AFRICA							
Gambia	Dec. 71	May 73 (addl.request)	March 72	-	-	April 73	
Ivory Coast	Dec. 72	—	March 74	-	Nov. 72	April 73	April 75
Liberia	March 72	-	Nov. 72	-	March 73	Nov. 73	Feb 74
Mali	May 72	-	Nov. 72	-	Aug. 73	Sept. 73	Dec. 76
Mauritania	July 72	-	Dec. 72	March 73	Feb. 74	Jan. 74	Dec. 76
Niger	Sept. 72	March 73	June 73	-	May 74	March 74	Nov. 77
Nigeria	June 71	-	March 72	-	—	Sept. 73	Nov. 73
Senegal	June 72	-	March 73	-	Sept. 73	April 74	April 76
Sierra Leone	Nov. 71	Sept. 72	May 72	June 73 1/	Oct. 72	April 74	Dec. 74
Upper Volta	Feb. 73	-	Dec. 73	-	July 74	Dec. 73	Dec. 75
CENTRAL AFRICA							
Cameroon	Sept. 72	Dec. 74	April 73	-	June 73	Nov. 73	April 76
Central African Empire	July 72	-	March 73	-	March 73	Dec. 73	Dec. 75
Congo	June 72	-	March 73	-	March 73	1973	Feb. 74
EAST AFRICA							
Madagascar	Feb. 72	June 72	August 72	-	-	Oct. 72	Feb. 75
Mauritius	Aug. 71	-	Dec. 71	-	-	June 72	June/July 72
Somalia	July 71	Aug. 72	Feb. 73	-	May 73	Nov. 74	Feb. 75

1/ Central month of approval given in parts over several months.

Annex IV

The timing of assistance activities and project implementation in 4 African countries which aim to complete population censuses in the 1970-round with UN assistance

June 1978

Sub-region and country	Submission of project request		UNFPA approval		Arrival of general census expert initially	Census date	
	Original	Revised	Initial	Subsequent		Original	Revised
WEST AFRICA							
Benin	Sept. 72	June 73	Nov. 72	Nov. 73	June 73	Feb. 73	1978
CENTRAL AFRICA							
Burundi	Nov. 76					Aug. 78	
Chad	July 72	May 73	Nov. 73	-	April 74	Dec. 74	?
EAST AFRICA							
Ethiopia	Aug. 72	Jan. 73	April 73	Jan. 74	Feb. 74	March 74	?

Annex V

ACP COUNTRIES STATUS REPORT

The present position of the census projects in the following 22 countries which participated in the United Nations African Census Programme, as is known to us in ECA, is indicated against each country:

Sub-region and Country	Date of Census Enumeration	Present Position
NORTH AFRICA		
Libya	July 1973	Preliminary results released. Tabulations completed. Final report under preparation. Detailed analytical work in process.
Sudan	April 1973	All the ten province reports and Vol.III: Characteristics of Nomadic population and Vol.IV: Part 1: Housing characteristics of urban areas (35 selected towns) of the Sudan Census Final Report have been published. The remaining volumes of the Sudan Census Final Report - Vol.I: Socio-economic Characteristics, Vol.II: Population Dynamics - Fertility and Mortality, and Vol.IV: Part 2: Socio-economic Characteristics of Urban Areas are under preparation.
WEST AFRICA		
Benin	1978	Preparations underway. Pilot census taken in April 1977.
Gambia	April 1973	Census data processing completed. Report on Statistics for Settlements and Enumeration Areas Vol.I: Population, Vol.II: Housing, Vol.III: General Report published.

Sub-region and Country	Date of Census Enumeration	Present Position
Ivory Coast	April 1975	Preliminary census results released. Census data processing underway. Three volumes "Réportoire des localites et population de Côte d'Ivoire et population 1975: Tome: Provisoire, Août 1976, Résultats au 1/10, Mars 77 and Département d'Abengourou Résultats définitifs, Mai 1977 have been published. Detailed tables in respect of two out of 26 departments now completed.
Liberia	February 1974	Census data processing well underway. Provisional Census Report Bulletin No.1 containing provisional population totals and demographic indices and Population Bulletin No.2 showing the final population totals and related percentages with some salient demographic characteristic published. The final Census Report was expected to be ready by March 1978.
Mali	December 1976	Provisional census results published. Data collected is being processed.
Mauritania	December 1976	Census enumeration of the entire population completed. Provisional total population figure announced by Govt. Data processing is underway.
Niger	May & July 77 (Nomadic population in northern areas) November 1977 (Sedentary population and rest of the nomadic population)	Census enumeration in whole of the country has been done. The census data is being processed.

Sub-region and Country	Date of Census Enumeration	Present Position
WEST AFRICA (Cont'd)		
Nigeria	November 1973	Census results cancelled.
Senegal	April 1976	Provisional census results released. Census data processing underway.
Sierra Leone	December 1974	Provisional total population figure released. Census tabulation programme is in hand. Delays due to hardware problems.
Upper Volta	December 1975	Provisional total population figure released. Census data processing underway, with direct assistance from France and the United States, in the installation of COCENTS, one of the census software packages. Some preliminary analysis of migration data completed.
CENTRAL AFRICA		
Burundi	August 1978	Project approved. Census expert appointed. Preparations are underway.
Cameroon	April 1976	Census data processing completed. Data being analysed.
Central African Empire	December 1975	Data analysis in progress. Three Volumes I, II and III on "Repertoire des Villages de l'Empire Centrafricain" published.
Chad	?	Census date uncertain, due to factors beyond the control of the statistical authorities.
Congo	February 1974	Data analysis in progress. Reports published: - Commune de Brazzaville. Résultats définitifs, 1975 - Vol.XIV. Population de Localities, Février 1975

Sub-region and Country	Date of Census Enumeration	Present Position
CENTRAL AFRICA (Cont'd)		
Congo (Cont'd)		- Commune de Brazzaville: I- Structure Démographique, 1976. - Commune de Brazzaville: 2- Nuptialité Mouvements Naturels, 1976. - Commune de Brazzaville: 3- Migrations, 1976. - Commune de Brazzaville: 4- Instruction et Activité Professionnelle 1976. - Commune de Brazzaville: 5- Characteristiques de Ménages et Habitat, 1976.
EAST AFRICA		
Ethiopia	?	Cartographic preparations completed in most urban areas and rural areas of one province. Field cartographic work now suspended due to factors beyond the control of the statistical authorities.
Madagascar	February 1975	Tabulation of census data well underway. Census results are yet to be published.
Mauritius	June 1972	Final Census Report published. Some demographic analysis completed.
Somalia	February 1975	After a period of uncertainty, Government has now reactivated the processing of census data, which they had suspended for some time.

Annex VI

STATUS OF 1980-ROUND OF POPULATION CENSUSES

The present status of the 1980-round of censuses in the ECA member countries, as is known at ECA, is shown below:

Sub-region and Country	Proposed date of Census Enumeration	Present Status
NORTH AFRICA		
Algeria	February 1977	Census field enumeration work completed. Data processing reported to be completed. Analysis expected to be started in October 1978.
Egypt	November 1976	Census taken. Preliminary census results released.
Libya		According to its announced pattern of census-taking, Libya will take the next population census in 1983. Government's confirmation to this effect is not yet available.
Morocco	1982	No other information available.
Sudan	1980/81	The Government has requested an ECA mission to be undertaken to help in drawing up a project request, but mission has been delayed pending outcome of proposed UNFPA mission to Sudan.
Tunisia	May 1975	Census report on population by administrative divisions published. Analysis of census data reported to be in progress. ECA evaluation and advisory mission undertaken. Also advisory services in data processing provided.
WEST AFRICA		
Benin		Still to take a population census in the 1970-round of censuses, which is planned for 1978.
Cape Verde	July 1978	Project which was prepared with ECA assistance has been approved by UNFPA. Cartographic Adviser in Guinea-Bissau is expected to visit Cape Verde to start cartographic preparations.
Gambia	1983	No further information.

Sub-region and Country	Proposed date of Census Enumeration	Present Status
WEST AFRICA (Cont'd)		
Ghana	March 1980	ECA mission to assist in formulating project request was undertaken in August 1977.
Guinea	December 1978	Project formulated with ECA assistance and submitted to UNFPA.
Guinea-Bissau	December 1978	Project which was formulated with ECA assistance has been approved by UNFPA. General census expert and cartographer appointed. Cartographic preparations started June 1977.
Ivory Coast	1985	Since the final report on its 1975 Population Census has not so far been published, it is too early yet to expect the Government to take a decision on the next census.
Liberia	1984	No steps have yet been taken by Government for the next population census.
Mali	1986	Too early for Government to think about next census, since processing of data for last census is not even completed.
Mauritania	1986	Same remarks as against Mali.
Niger	1987	Same remarks as against Mali.
Nigeria	?	No information on the next population census is available.
Senegal	1986	Statistical authorities are busy with the preparation of 1976 Census Report. Too early yet for decisions relating to details of next census.
Sierra Leone	1984	Same remarks as against Mali.
Togo	1980	Based on its announced pattern of census-taking, it is presumed that Togo will conduct its next population census in 1980. However, no official confirmation is available.

Sub-region and Country	Proposed date of Census Enumeration	Present Status
WEST AFRICA (Cont'd)		
Upper Volta	1985	Premature for definite plans for next census to be announced.
CENTRAL AFRICA		
Angola		No information available.
Burundi		Has not yet completed its population census in the 1970-round, which is fixed for August 1978.
Cameroon		Government has not announced any plans for the next census.
Central African Empire		Not known.
Chad		Population census in the 1970-round not taken yet.
Congo		No Government declaration so far.
Equatorial Guinea		No information available.
Gabon	1980	Project formulated by ECA at the request of the Government, but no final government decision taken.
Sao Tome and Principe	August 1978	Project formulated by ECA at the request of the Government has been approved.
Zaire	1980	Feasibility study undertaken by a UN consultant. Final approval from UNFPA still awaited but plans approved for recruitment of cartographic adviser.
EAST AFRICA		
Comoros		ECA assistance in formulating project request sought by Government in January 1978.
Kenya	August 1979	Preparations underway. The project document was drawn up with ECA assistace. A cartographic expert from O.D.M. has already started work.
Ethiopia		Census in 1970-round not yet undertaken.

Sub-region and Country	Proposed date of Census Enumeration	Present Status
EAST AFRICA (Cont'd)		
Madagascar		Government's intentions are not known.
Malawi	September 1977	Census enumeration already undertaken. Data processing underway. Regional Advisory services in data processing were provided by ECA.
Mauritius	1982	No further details.
Mozambique	1980	An ECA mission to draw up a project request will be sent in September/ October.
Rwanda	August 1978	Preparations well advanced. Pilot census was scheduled for December 1977. Regional advisory services in data processing have been provided by ECA.
Seychelles	1977	Census enumeration completed.
Somalia		Too early to consider plans for next census.
Tanzania	1978	Final preparations underway for an August enumeration.
Uganda	1979	Preparations underway.
Zambia	1980	Preparations are underway. Originally scheduled to be held in 1979.
SOUTHERN AFRICA		
Botswana	1981	Project document formulated with ECA assistance in May 1978.
Lesotho	April 1976	Census taken. Processing of data in progress. ECA advisory services in data processing provided.
Swaziland	August 1976	Final census tables are ready. ECA advisory services in data processing provided.

Annex VII

UN Experts Assigned to Population Census Projects
(in countries where census enumeration is completed)
June 1978

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
NORTH AFRICA			
Algeria	P.Worth (Sweden)	Systems analyst	Oct.77 - Oct.78
Libya	N.S.Choudhury (India)	Senior statistician	Aug.72 - Dec.79
	G.B.Saxsena (India)	Demographer/Analyst	Nov.76 - Nov.78
	N.Nadarajah(Sri Lanka)	Demographic Stats. expert	Jan.77 - Jan.78
Sudan	D.H. Bhate (India)	Population census expert	Feb.73 - May 75
	R.J. Connolly (USA)	Systems analyst	June 73 - Dec.74
	A.S.Galocz (Poland)	Census cartographer	July 73 - Jan.75
	M.H.A.G.Rizk (Egypt)	Programmer	Sept.73 - Sept.74
	B.M.Mahajan (India)	Demographer/Analyst	Sept.74 - Sept.77
WEST AFRICA			
Ivory Coast	S.Zrimec (Yugoslavia)	Population census expert	Nov.72 - Oct.76
	L.Byberg (Denmark)	Pop.census expert (Assoc.)	Sept.74 - Sept.76
	M. Mehani (Algeria)	Demographer/Analyst	
	P.D.Matter (France)	Census cartographer	Dec.74 - June 75
	C.Paulet (France)	Demographic Stats. expert	Sept.77 - Aug.78
Liberia	J.C.Rumford (USA)	Population census expert	March 73 - June 75
	G.K.Mehrotra (India)	Systems analyst Demographic survey expert	July 75 - June 77 July 77 - June 78
	P.Prak (Netherlands)	Associate demo. survey expert	Sept.77 - Aug.78
Mali	M.Lubin (Haiti)	Population census expert	Aug.73 - Aug.74
	P.Matter (France)	Census cartographer	Oct.75 - Oct.76
	S.Looky (Togo)*	Population census expert	July 75 - Jan.77
	B.Ray (India)	Demographer/Analyst	

* ECA Regional Demographic Adviser who acted as country expert.

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
WEST AFRICA (Cont'd)			
Mauritania	B.Ray (India)	Population census expert	Feb.74 - June 77
	S.Shoenmackers (Belgium)	Pop.census expert (Assoc.)	May 75 - May 77
	P.W.P.Browne (Canada)	Data processing expert	Jan.78 - Dec.79
Niger	J.Daenen (Belgium)	Population census expert	May 74 - Jan.77
	R.H.Rotach(Switzerland)	Population census expert	Dec.76 - Jan.78
	P.Valet (France)	Census cartographer	Oct.75 - June 77
Nigeria	C.Fleischmann(Austria)	Systems analyst	March 73 - March 75
	C.R.Oliveira (Brazil)	Census cartographer	April 71 - April 74
Senegal	J.Gagnon (Canada)	Population census expert	Sept.73 - Sept.74
Sierra Leone	M.D.Crone (UK)	Population census expert	Oct.72 - Aug.75
	G.Wood (UK)	Systems analyst	June 75 - June 78
Upper Volta	A. Berciu (Romania)	Population census expert	July 74 - Sept.76
CENTRAL AFRICA			
Cameroon	J.Daenen (Belgium)	Population census expert	June 73 - April 74
	W.Joseph (Liberia)	Population census expert	Oct.74 - Dec.76
	A.P.Pinganaud (France)	Census cartographer	Oct.74 - April 76
	A.L.Dekker(Netherlands)	Systems analyst	April 75 - Nov.77
	G. Negadi (Algeria)	Demographer/Analyst	
Central African Empire	M.E.Ledjri (Tunisia)	Population census expert	March 73 - Feb.76
	E.Desert (Haiti)	Population census expert (Assistant)	Aug.74 - Feb.76
		Population census expert	March 76 - Sept.77
	M.H.Simonet (France)	Demographer/Analyst	April 77 -

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
CENTRAL AFRICA (Cont'd)			
Congo	P.Naidenova, Mrs. (Bulgaria)	Population census expert	March 73 - Sept.74
		Consultant population census (periodic visits as required)	Oct.74 - Oct.75
EAST AFRICA			
Madagascar	H.Simon (Canada)	Data processing expert	June 75 - June 76
Malawi	K.M.Barnett (UK)	Population census expert	Sept.74 - Dec.78
	R.Hare (UK)	Census cartographer	March 74 - Nov.77
	B.K.Maratha (India)	Data processing expert	June 77 - June 78
Mauritius	G.S.Kumari, Miss (India)	Demographer/Analyst	Oct.73 - Dec.75
Somalia	O.Adegboyega (Nigeria)	Population census expert	May 73 - June 77
	B.R.Cohen (Bulgaria)	Census cartographer	May 73 - Nov.74
	N.Nadarajah (Sri Lanka)	Sampling expert	Sept.70 - Dec.76
	B.Georgsson (Sweden)	Data processing expert	Dec.74 - Aug.77
Swaziland	A.Gani (India)	Demographic statistician	May 74 - April 77
	W.Raible (Fed.Rep.of Germany)	Data processing expert	May 76 - Jan.77

Annex VIII

UN Experts Assigned to Population Census Projects
(in countries where census enumeration is pending)

June 1978

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
WEST AFRICA			
Benin	J.J.Plaisir (Haiti)	Population census expert	June 73 - May 75
	Quang Bui Minh (Soc.Rep.of Vietnam)	Population census expert	Aug.77 - June 78
	H.Ureta (Uruguay)	Census cartographer	Aug.74 - Dec.75
	A.P.Pinganaud (France)	Cartographer	July 76 - April 78
	I. Ferenbac (Romania)	Population census expert	June 76 - July 77
Guinea Bissau	H. Jomma (Tunisia)	Census cartographer	June 77 - June 78
	A. Lindenberg (Sweden)	Pop. census expert (associate)	Sept.76 - Dec.78
CENTRAL AFRICA			
Burundi	A. Berciu (Romania)	Pop. census expert	May 77 - Dec.78
	L.F.J.Naon (Uruguay)	Census cartographer	May 77 - Oct.78
	R. Shoenmackers(Belgium)	Associate population census expert	June 77 - June 78
Chad	P.Franche(Philippines)	Population census expert	March 74 - March 78
	L.F.J.Naon (Uruguay)	Census cartographer	Nov.74 - July 76
Zaire	A.Nicouline (Bulgaria)	Demographic statistician	March 75 - March 76
	B.Gil (Israel)	Population census consultant	June - Sept.77
EAST AFRICA			
Ethiopia	G.Jacobsson (Sweden)	Population census expert	Feb.74 - Feb.76
	N.K.Chakravarti(India)	Sampling expert	Aug.73 - Aug.75
	B.K.Roy (India)	Census cartographer	Aug.73 - Sept.75
	A.Listoe (USA)	Data processing expert	Sept.73 - Aug.74
Rwanda	S.Zrimec(Yugoslavia)	Population census expert	Oct.76 - Dec.78
	A.Spina (Canada)	Data processing expert	Nov.77 - Oct.78

Country	Name of Expert	Assignment	Contract Dates
EAST AFRICA (Cont'd)			
Zambia	M.H.Sheikh (Pakistan)	Demographic statistician	May 74 - May 77
		Pop.census expert	May 77 - May 79
UDEAC	B.Z.Gil (Israel)	Chief UN demographic statistics adviser/ co-ordinator	June 73 - June 74
	W.Joseph (Liberia)	Chief UN demographic statistics adviser/ co-ordinator	Jan.77 - Jan.79
	J.Archibald Mrs. (Canada)	Demographer	Jan.75 - Jan.76
	G.Gonnings(Belgium)	Demographic statistics adviser (Assoc.)	July 75 - July 77

Annex IX

ECA/RASDS Regional Population Census Advisers

Assignment	Name	Date of Arrival	Date of Departure
Project Officer	E.P. Swan	April 72	May 74
	K.T. de Graft-Johnsen	July 75	
Demographic Statistics	J.G.C. Blacker	Oct 67 Jan 72	Dec 72
	Z. Rajakovic	Oct 68 May 73	Dec 73
	L.W. St. John-Jones	Nov 72	April 75
	Y. de Jocas	April 74	April 75
	M.E. Ledjri	March 76	
Cartography	G.L. Cazaux	Feb 74	Jan 75
Census Operations	W. Perry	July 73	Jan 75
Sampling	A.K. Maitra	Dec 72	Sept 77
Data Processing	L.R.A. Rehlin	June 72	June 73
	M. Richardson	Oct 73	Oct 74
	W. Hess	June 75	June 76
	W. Raible	March 77	
Demography	N. Hong	Feb 72	July 74

Annex X

Regional Advisory Missions undertaken by ECA Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics

1 January 1973 - 30 June 1978

SUBJECT	SUB-REGION																		Total
	North Africa						West Africa						Central Africa						East Africa						
	73	74	75	76	77	78	73	74	75	76	77	78	73	74	75	76	77	78	73	74	75	76	77	78	
Census Organization	4	2	2	1	2	1	14	17	2	15	14	2	2	4	2	3	3	1	2	11	1	1	3	4	113
Sampling and Household Surveys	3	1	4	2	5		-	5	-	1	1		1	4	2	3	1	1	1	1	-	-	-		36
Data Processing	-	3	-	2	2		2	5	-	-	1		2	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	4	4		25
Cartography	3	-	-	-	-		1	7	-	-	-		-	4	-	-	-		-	3	-	-	-		18
Total	10	6	6	5	9	1	17	34	2	16	16	2	5	12	4	6	4	2	3	15	1	5	7	4	192

Note: The missions have been classified according to their primary objective. Thus, a mission which covered census organization mainly but also dealt with household surveys is classified under census organization.

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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/CPH/45
15 June 1978

Original: English

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Working Group on Recommendations for the 1980
Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa

Addis Ababa, 10-14 July 1978

WORLD RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 1980 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

M78-1556

1. An Expert Group meeting was held in New York from 16 to 24 January 1978 to finalize the draft global recommendations for the 1980 population and housing censuses to be submitted to the 20th session of the Statistical Commission in January 1979. The meeting was organized by the United Nations Statistical Office (UNSO) and was attended by 17 experts from developed and developing countries as well as from various agencies. The African region was represented by Mr. M. El Mokhtar Zamel, Director of Statistics, Mauritania, Mr. E.A. Colecraft, Census Office, Ghana, and Mr. R. Andrianasolo, Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Section, UNECA Statistics Division.

2. It may be recalled that at the request of the Statistical Commission, the regional commissions and the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) have been dealing with the recommendations concerning the content of the census questionnaire, while UNSO has concentrated on matters relating to census operations. It should be noted that it is planned to publish the population and housing census recommendations in a single volume and to eliminate any reference to a specific year in the title of the document.

3. In connection with these preparations, ECA undertook a study on "Methods and problems of the 1970 round of African population and housing censuses" which was presented at the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians and will be submitted to a Working Group on the Recommendations for the 1980 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa in July 1978.

4. The present summary of the report of the New York Expert Group is also intended to serve as a background paper for the above mentioned African Working Group since the global recommendations and the regional recommendations should be seen as complementary.

5. For practical reasons, this paper will be presented under two main headings:

(i) Census Operations

(ii) Census Content

(i) Census Operations

Definition, essential features and uses of population and housing censuses

6. The expert group agreed that fixed periodicity and other national considerations are more important for determing the census year than the achievement of international simultaneity. Nevertheless it recognized that reasonably simultaneous census-taking gives additional advantages in comparability and therefore considered useful for countries to try to undertake where possible a census in the years ending in "0" or as near to those years as feasible.

7. The group recommended that more emphasis be put on the policy and planning uses of the census data as opposed to the administrative uses.

8. It was reaffirmed that a close relationship exists between population censuses and housing censuses. Nevertheless the view was expressed that the

practice of conducting these two censuses as a simultaneous field operation may in some developing countries place too heavy a burden on the enumerator which would result in a deterioration of quality. In this connection it was suggested that the housing census might be carried out as part of the house-listing operation while still preserving the necessary linkage of housing and related population.

9. Taking into account the increasing integration of the data collection programmes, the group agreed that a closer association than in the past should exist between the population census and the agricultural census although they utilize different enumeration units. However this does not necessarily imply an attempt to combine these two censuses into a single field operation which might in fact place a very great burden on the field staff.

Planning, organization and administration of population and housing censuses

10. The group emphasized the need for simplifying as far as possible administrative procedures relating to recruitment of staff, procurement of equipment and supplies, etc. during the operational phase of the census. An adequate legal basis for a census should be published at a very early stage of census preparation to ensure that operations which need a long period to be carried out can be initiated in a timely manner and with appropriate funding. Also at that early stage, a provisional calendar of selected key dates should be prepared as an overall framework for the census. The calendar should be revised and made more detailed as planning proceeds, with the aim of establishing final dates as soon as practicable.

11. The meeting endorsed the expanded draft recommendations concerning communication with users and the general public and stressed the need to begin planning to this effect at an early date although the publicity campaign itself should be very carefully timed and not start too early.

12. The group recognized the great utility of the expanded guidelines on cartographic work which is an important and continuing aspect of census preparations. It was underlined that the remote sensing of the earth by aerial photography and satellite imagery can be useful for censuses, but is a very expensive means of providing necessary information. In this connection, it was suggested that such kinds of techniques should not be considered for census purposes only but in the context of much broader uses for country needs. Consequently, in such a context, the expenses for census purposes will diminish.

13. The group agreed that for the production of small area data from a population and housing census, the Enumeration Area (EA) can be the key unit, particularly in the absence of a comprehensive system of street or similar addresses. However, it was felt that the purposes of small area statistics and the related problems of confidentiality should be made clear. It might also be useful to distinguish between the traditional, hierarchical system of coding all levels of civil divisions and, on the lowest level, the Enumeration Areas (EA's), and the more recently developed geocoding systems which use map co-ordinates as a reference.

14. The meeting was of the opinion that new developments in computer edit software were important but considered that such software was expensive to develop and, although it might be possible to use portable software packages developed elsewhere, many countries had experienced difficulties in using software packages in connection with census or survey editing or tabulating in the past. At a minimum, such packages implied specialised training and sometimes considerable adaptation.

15. The group recommended that plans should be made to process the census in the country for several technical reasons, e.g. easy access to census documents, opportunity of national data processing and other census personnel to become more familiar with the overall census operation. In addition, the census was often the occasion for countries to up-grade or expand the computing facilities used for statistical data processing. Countries should also consider using within-country data processing facilities outside the census or statistical office rather than processing the census outside the country which should only be resorted to if all other alternatives are not feasible.

16. The meeting agreed that the training of staff for a population and housing census is extremely important in the preparation of the census since its success rests almost entirely in the hands of the staff and expressed its satisfaction that more extensive guidelines concerning this question are now available than before. Suggestions were made to further stress the important role of training in improving the quality of the census results, to specify training needs for other census personnel (e.g. editors, crew-leaders, higher-level supervisors) and to illustrate the training activities with examples.

17. Attention was given to the considerable difficulties resulting from the existence of a number of different languages in a country taking a census. In many countries, the matter has been taken care of by the use of multi-lingual questionnaires or regional questionnaires or by the printing of manuals in the various languages. The problem is more serious in case of non-written languages and must be dealt with during the training programme. It is very important that the enumerators be conversant in the language or dialect of the area where they work and that they are instructed in the correct formulation of the census questions in the vernacular when the questionnaire is printed in another language.

18. Finally, it should be noted that the ECA study on "Special Techniques for enumerating nomads in African censuses and surveys" is mentioned in the global recommendations as a document of reference on methods used to enumerate nomads and semi-nomads.

Use of sampling in population and housing censuses

19. The section dealing with the use of sampling was only slightly revised. It was suggested that recognition should be given to the importance of computing sampling variances, at least for the major items of interest. Simplified methods, in conformity with the sample designs, could be used for this purpose, such as the use of random groups or from the summarization of the basic data for individual primary sampling units. It was also suggested to indicate the need to maintain as much independence as possible between the census and the post-enumeration field check.

20. In view of the speed of computer processing of census results, a number of experts questioned the wisdom of the use of sampling in connection with the preparation of the final tabulations.

The units, place and time of enumeration

21. The Expert Group recognized that there might be difficulty in some countries in applying the definitions of "household" and of "living quarters" and particularly in maintaining independent concepts. However, it was considered that the advantages in terms of the usefulness of the data which would result from independent concepts outweighed the additional effort required.

22. It was pointed out that the definitions provided in the global recommendations concerning the population and housing censuses would have to be expanded and illustrated in terms of the conditions and circumstances in each country and that post-enumeration field checks could provide a useful means of determining to what extent the national definitions of the units of enumeration had been applied in the field and the consequent effect on the census results.

23. Since it is traditional in some countries to utilize the family rather than the household as a unit of enumeration, it was agreed that the family in the broad sense of the term may be adopted as an additional unit of enumeration; in the great majority of cases the composition of this unit will coincide with that of the household.

(ii) Census content

24. In its discussion of the factors determining the selection of topics, the Expert Group agreed that mention should be made of the usefulness of historical continuity in topics investigated, so as to provide the opportunity of comparison of changes over time. Countries should, however, avoid collecting information no longer required simply because it was traditionally collected in the past.

25. It was also agreed that some caution should be indicated on the cost involved of including questions that cannot be precoded (for example, names of specific places of previous residence).

26. It has already been mentioned that the regional commissions had to take the lead in the determination of topics and tabulations. The topics included in regional recommendations (including the African draft recommendations) are shown hereafter according to priority:

A. Population Census

a) Priority topics in four or five regions

- Geographic and migration characteristics

  - Place of usual residence
  - Place where present at time of census
  - Place of birth
  - Duration of residence
  - Place of residence at a specified date in the past
  - Total population *
  - Locality *
  - Urban and rural *

* Derived topics

- Household characteristics
  - Relationship to head or other reference member of household
  - Household composition
- Demographic and social characteristics
  - Sex
  - Age
  - Marital status
  - Citizenship
- Fertility and mortality
  - Children born alive
  - Children living
- Educational characteristics
  - Educational attainment
  - Literacy
  - School attendance
- Economic characteristics
  - Activity status
  - Occupation
  - Industry
  - Status in employment

b) Priority and/or "other useful" topics in at least three regions (in addition to the topics included in list "a")

- Geographic and migration characteristics
  - Place of previous residence
- Demographic and social characteristics
  - National and/or ethnic group
  - Religion
- Fertility and mortality
  - Age at marriage
  - Live births within the 12 months preceding the census
  - Deaths of infants born within the 12 months preceding the census
  - Duration of marriage
  - Maternal orphanhood
- Educational characteristic
  - Educational qualifications
- Economic characteristics
  - Time worked
  - Income
  - Sector of employment

c) Other topics mentioned in the recommendations of one or two regions only (in addition to the topics in lists "a" and "b")

- Geographic and migration characteristics
  - Year or period of immigration into country **
  - Place of work
  - Location of school, university, etc.
  - Journey to work
  - Reason for migration
  - Place of civil registration
- Household characteristics
  - Family composition **
  - Relationship to head of family
  - Household size
- Social characteristics
  - Language**
  - Physical disabilities
- Fertility and mortality
  - Marriage order
  - Form of marriage
  - Number of spouses
  - All deaths in household in the 12-month period preceding the census
  - Paternal orphanhood
  - Survival of first husband
- Economic characteristics
  - Main source of livelihood
  - Socio-economic group
  - Dependency **
  - Duration of unemployment **
  - Number of persons employed by employer
  - Type of establishment
  - Farm or non-farm residence

B. Housing Census

a) Priority topics in four or five regions

- Building in which living quarters are located
  - Type of building
- Characteristics and facilities of living quarters
  - Location
  - Type of living quarters
  - Occupancy status
  - Number of rooms
  - Type of lighting
  - Toilet facilities
  - Water supply system

** Would be advanced to list "b" if adopted by the African region.

- Occupants of living quarters
  - Number of households
  - Number of occupants
  - Tenure

b) Priority and/or "other useful" topics in at least three regions (in addition to the topics included in list "a")

- Building
  - Construction material of outer walls
  - Year or period of construction
- Living quarters
  - Type of ownership
  - Bathing facilities
  - Cooking facilities
- Occupants of living quarters
  - Number of conjugal family nucleus
  - Demographic and economic characteristics of household head or reference person (age, sex, type of activity, occupation)
  - Rental

c) Other topics mentioned in the recommendations of one or two regions only

- Building
  - Whether or not located in a compound
  - Farm building or non-farm
  - Number of floors (storeys)
  - Number of dwellings in the buildings
  - Elevators (lifts)
  - State of repair
- Living quarters
  - Number of bedrooms
  - Temperature control
  - Position of dwelling in building
  - Useful and/or living floor space
  - Outdoor space
  - Hot water
  - Source of fuel
  - Source of energy for heating
  - Type of sewage disposal system
  - Piped gas
  - Telephone

- Occupants of living quarters
  - Socio-economic group of household head or reference person
  - Tenure of land on which living quarters are located
  - Household head marital status
  - Household head industry
  - Household head national and/or ethnic group
  - Income level of household head
  - Length of occupancy of present household
  - Type of household
  - Size of household
  - Single or shared occupancy
  - Household appliances

(iii) Conclusions

27. As it can be seen from the above statement, the concerns of developing countries in general and those of the African region in particular were taken into account both by the United Nations Statistical Office and the Expert Group in the draft recommendations for the future population and housing censuses. Such recommendations have to be general as they should also reflect the situations in developed countries. Therefore, adaptations to local conditions will be needed.

28. The lists of topics above are given for reference purpose only. It is recommended that countries should first take into consideration the priority and "other useful" topics in their own regions before considering the need and the feasibility of also investigating the remaining topics listed. The final decision should be taken in the light of national requirements for economic and social planning. It should be pointed out that the topics listed in A,c and B,c above need careful examinations before a decision is taken to include them in the census.

29. Finally, the Expert Group considered that the tabulation programmes should also be prepared in the light of national requirements and the possibility of collecting reliable data on the topics selected.